

Listing of Claims

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 37 (previously presented). A sanitizer composition having improved surface retention, comprising:

- (a) water;
- (b) about 1 ppm to about 3000 ppm of an organic peracid antimicrobial agent; and
- (c) a retention aid comprising
 - (i) about 0.025 wt% to about 1.0 wt% of a biopolymer thickening agent, and
 - (ii) about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt% of at least one surfactant,

wherein the composition has a viscosity of about 3 cP to about 15000 cP at 23°C.

Claim 38 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 further comprising a magnesium ion source.

Claim 39 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 wherein the biopolymer thickening agent is selected from polysaccharides and heteropolysaccharides.

Claim 40 (previously presented). The composition of claim 39 wherein the polysaccharides are selected from galactomannans, glucomannans, galactans, carrageenans, polyuronic acids, pectins, glucans, alginic acids and salts thereof; and the heteropolysaccharides are selected from gellan, whelan, natural gums and waxes, starch, and arabinogalactan.

Claim 41 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 in which the biopolymer thickening agent is selected from guar gum, a mixture of guar gum and xanthan, and a mixture of xanthan and glucomannan.

Claim 42 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 wherein the organic peracid antimicrobial agent is selected from peracetic acid or a mixture of peracetic acid and another organic peracid.

Claim 43 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 wherein the surfactant is a mixture of a non-ionic and an ionic surfactant.

Claim 44 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 wherein the surfactant is a mixture of a non-ionic surfactant and an anionic surfactant, the non-ionic surfactant has a polar non-ionic group attached to a first alkyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms, the anionic surfactant has an anionic group attached to a second alkyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms, and the ratio of the non-ionic surfactant to the anionic surfactant is about 0.1:1 to about 0.5:1.

Claim 45 (previously presented). The composition of claim 44 in which the first and second alkyl groups are straight chain, the first alkyl group is substituted with the polar group on a terminal carbon atom, and the second alkyl group is substituted with the anionic group on a terminal carbon atom.

Claim 46 (currently amended). [The composition of claim 43] A sanitizer composition having improved surface retention, comprising:

(a) water;

(b) about 1 ppm to about 3000 ppm of an organic peracid antimicrobial agent; and

(c) a retention aid comprising

(i) about 0.025 wt% to about 1.0 wt% of at least one biopolymer thickening agent; and

(ii) about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt% of a mixture of a non-ionic and an anionic surfactant, in which the non-ionic surfactant is a C₈-C₂₀ alkyl alcohol and the anionic surfactant is selected from salts of sulfate esters of linear [aliphatic] C₈-C₂₀ aliphatic alcohols

wherein the composition has a viscosity of about 3 cP to about 15000 cP at 23 °C.

Claim 47 (currently amended). [The composition of claim [37] 46 in which the [surfactant comprises a] mixture of a non-ionic and an anionic surfactant comprises a mixture of (i) lauryl alcohol and (ii) sodium lauryl sulfate, magnesium lauryl sulfate or a mixture thereof, wherein [a] the ratio of (i) to (ii) is about 1:1 to about 1:5.

Claim 48 (previously presented). The composition of claim 38 wherein the magnesium ion source is a magnesium salt in an amount of about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt%.

Claim 49 (previously presented). A method for sanitizing a surface, comprising applying the sanitizer composition of claim 37 to the surface for a time sufficient to sanitize the surface.

Claim 50 (previously amended). The method of claim 49 wherein the sanitizer composition further includes a magnesium ion source.

Claim 51 (previously amended). A sanitizer kit comprising a first part and a second part, in which the first part comprises an aqueous solution or dispersion of an organic peracid antimicrobial agent, and the second part comprises a retention aid as defined in claim 37.

Claim 52 (currently amended). The sanitizer kit of claim 51 in which the retention aid comprises a [the] surfactant comprising [comprises] a mixture of (i) lauryl alcohol and (ii) sodium lauryl sulfate, magnesium lauryl sulfate or a mixture thereof, in a ratio of (i) to (ii) of about 0.1:1 to about 0.5:1, and the retention aid further comprises a magnesium ion source.

Claim 53 (previously amended). The sanitizer kit of claim 52 in which the antimicrobial agent is peracetic acid or a mixture of peracetic acid and another organic peracid, and the

magnesium ion source is a magnesium salt in an amount of about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt%.